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Linux Kernel Development Linux Kernel Linux

Is the book "Linux Kernel Development" (3rd Edition) by Robert Love, which is based on Linux version 2.6, still a good read today to learn the Linux kernel fundamentals? What're the most significant changes since then to look out for?



Answer



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4 Answers



Neeraj Pal, Passionate for kernel , Linux kernel.

Answered Sep 20, 2017



Most of the Linux Kernel Development books are based on Linux Kernel 2.6 and also if you make a search on [Google](#) then also there are some basic codes which are focussed on linux kernel 3.0 and some like one or two codes for linux kernel 4.0 .

Now , if you are passionate enough then just read all those books and learn the concepts . Because every kernel book is best for learning Linux Internals or learning kernel concepts.

But, then for proper learning you also need to practically implement all codes in your Linux Kernel .You can also opt for kernel 2.6 but , I would suggest you to download latest current mainline kernel source and then compile it with proper configurations and after reading and learning theoretical concepts from every chapter in every book start implementing your own kernel codes for practical learning.

Now, what if you encounters some specific problem like suppose you learned concepts according to kernel 2.6 but in kernel **4.14-rc1** some functions are updated and modified.Then, at that time you just search about the problem in [Google](#) search for some hints or some solutions , if unable to find , then go to [linux - Elixir - Free Electrons](#) and find the same function which is modified and then read code from there and start implementing . If you find some difficulty then ask questions on platforms like [Hot Questions - Stack Exchange](#) , <https://www.quora.com/> , [Mailing List](#) etc.

Then , Now , if you want to know what are the changes in codes in between versions of Linux Kernel then go to [The Linux Kernel Archives](#) and click on "**view diff**" and then scroll and search for your file and see the changes in code.

Also follow [Welcome to LWN.net](#) articles and also [LinuxChanges - Linux Kernel Newbies](#) .

Note:

- This answer is based on my real daily life experience because at first i also struggled with lots of difficulties but now I am enjoying the learning process of Linux Kernel.
- And , you should also make proper codes of every implementation in newest Linux Kernel and also make git repo of your updated codes. So, in future if someone seeks to get help then he/she will find updated kernel codes.

Reference Books for Linux Kernel:

- **LKMPG (The Linux Kernel Module Programming Guide)** .
- **Linux Kernel Development By Robert Love.**
- **Linux Device Drivers 3rd Edition (LDD3).**
- **Essential Linux Device Drivers By Sreekrishnan Venkateswaran.**

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I think above Linux Kernel Series books are one of the best Kernel books for Learning Kernel concepts and also implementing practically .

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Agile Software Development: What is the best format for a stand-up meeting?



Despina Emmanuel, Co-shaping the future of work at Geekbot (2019-present)
Answered Dec 18

First, it is very crucial that stand up meetings do not last more than 15 min (short duration) . Everyone can share necessary updates without elaborating on details. (highly focused scope). Team members need to focus on three main points:

- What did you do since yesterday?...

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Satpal Parmar, Write firmware for network & telecom products.
Updated Oct 20, 2017



How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time

Linux is proverbial elephant for a developer. Best way to get started into kernel development is to develop t a big picture view first and then doing deep dives in subsystems. From big picture respective Love's book is still the best source we have in the market today.

Since Linux is open source development project change is literally constant. Best way to track this change is become member or subscriber of subsystem and mailing list. Fr overall development and analysis on can track [The Linux Kernel Archives](#) or [Welcome to LWN.net](#) .

Core Linux OS subsystem (MM, scheduler, FS) design changes are slow and evolved over years. Whenever this happens you can find lots of material on web as people present their ideas in various forums, discuss alternatives and publish performance numbers on multiple platforms.

API changes are more frequent as coder keep cleaning code making it more relevant, portable, readable and bug free. Again you can track such changes on mailing or commit history of subsystems.

To conclude if you are a system software student and want to be factually correct in your references then I suggest you to spend time on Linux mailing lists and kernel forums. Any book on evolving project will be outdated by the time it get published. But from a budding system software developer 's point of view book is still handy and give good context on key concept & design implementations.

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Recommended All



Anand Bhat, hacker
Answered Sep 19, 2017



It is still relevant if you are looking for concepts. If you are looking for gory implementation details, it is better to follow lwn articles as they describe latest development happening in the community. If are looking for a book with deeper details, then check out Linux Kernel Architecture by Wolfgang..

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Vaishali Thakkar, Freelance Linux Kernel Engineer

Answered Sep 5, 2017



I think the book is still relevant about the basic concepts but as many subsystems or core code has been changed over the years, the best way to learn about the Linux kernel fundamentals is to read the book and linux-next code simultaneously. This way you can see how particular part of the kernel has been changed over the years. Git commit logs and LWN articles can also help to understand these changes.

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